

FROM PHILADELPHIA.

THE DEMOCRACY AT BAY—THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Permit me to announce to you that this strange world we live in, seeing that your opportunities for making the discovery in other ways are somewhat limited. Perhaps, however, it may be only the people who are given to such eccentricities; and perhaps, too, it may not be the whole people, but only that virtuous portion of them which the opposition newspapers contemptuously denounce as the Sham Democracy. Let it then be so. The Democracy is a strange agglomeration of blunders and contradictions, and is becoming each day a bigger sham than ever. Here, for a week past, we have had in this city the Secretary of the Treasury and two other Government dignitaries, riding about and feasting at the public expense under pretense of feeling where the new Post-Office shall be located. There is a terrific pulling and hauling among certain owners of real estate as to the location, and more hard swearing than the whole affair is worth. The Pennsylvania Bank building and the marble monster of Gen. Jackson are the rival claimants. If the latter should be found to afford the best pickings, it will certainly be selected, for everything just now is a mean, dirty job. In that event, the marble place will be flanked with two low, one-story sheds, and full swing given to the carpenter to exercise his highest genius in the art of sinking. That magnificent pile will become an architectural disgrace. But no matter for that so that the job pays. Well, you are not to suppose that the three dignitaries from headquarters be permitted to come here on so important a mission without being followed by some retainers of the same political stripe. Like all other luminaries, they have their satellites. It has leaked out somehow, from some one of this foul party, that things are going on at Washington which even your acute correspondents there have taken no note of. It is pretty certain now that a complete and tolerably harmonious understanding exists between Buchanan, Wise and Douglas, and they three had a formal party, very previous to the latter leaving Washington to pitch into his foes at home. Mr. Wise was sent for to confer with them, and he came upon from Richmond for that purpose, very quietly, but very leucely. The upshot of the matter was that Wise and Douglas pulled together with a sturdy determination that nothing could move. They demanded that Popular Sovereignty should have a full and honest trial before the whole people at the Congressional elections this Fall; that Buchanan should call off his dogs and let it be a free fight all round, and that his proscription for opinion sake, the proscription of men who happen to be Douglas's friends should be stopped. Strategically as it may sound, all this was agreed to by the President, and the adjournment of the conference subject to the ratification of the people as to Leecompton at the Fall elections. If they repudiate and elect a House which is Anti-Leecompton, Mr. Buchanan agrees to cave in and turn the shortest kind of a corner, all which will be demonstrated in his next Annual Message.

Since this matter came to my knowledge I have been looking round to see if any facts could be discovered that would seem to confirm or singular a compact. I learn at the Post-Office that the avalanche of Leecompton documents which were franked at Washington to all parts of Pennsylvania, has been stopped. They were found to be creating more bad blood than was desirable. Then the President's organ here, *The Pennsylvania*, has been ordered to stop Mr. Douglas as one of your Black Republicanism language, and is becoming quite polite when referring to that arch disorganizer, *The Press*. On Thursday it went so far as to take the back-track on the Anti-Leecompton traitors, as it facetiously called them from the beginning, and gave them a general absolution, under which it is hoped they all feel better, saying that "a man may have had, or not now, what view he pleased upon the subject, and ten issue, so long as he holds them within and subject to the control of party rules. He may vote for the most virtuous man in the country on the country on the condition of his will submit to the 'choice' of the majority when made, no matter who 'chose' be selected." This is a break-down of the shabbier kind for the slaughter-breathing organs of the President. Then four of Mr. Douglas's advocates in Illinois, one of whom prints a rampant Anti-Leecompton paper, have been reappointed Postmasters. These signs go to show that the sword has actually been sheathed, and that Mr. Buchanan has at length become convinced that the fire-eaters have had their turn quite long enough. I would have your readers watch the signs of the times, and note what commentary they make upon the foregoing text.

Our Tribune correspondent in a city on the line of the underground railroad gave notice that "a largely the number of fugitives increased 'of late,' that a committee was appointed to take charge of the subject, who ordered \$1,000 to be raised to defray expenses. This alarming announcement has riled up the doughfaced in this village prodigiously.

The Southern Monitor, their peculiar organ here, accordingly retaliates in this way:

"In response to the above, we have the gratification to announce to our Southern friends that the Underground Police Organization in the North is rapidly approaching completion. The organization, which has been organized, was has contributed, or may contribute, directly or indirectly, to defray the expenses of the pirates and thieves, will be known—and their names will be at the service of their Southern customers."

Now I have inquired into the meaning of this "Underground Police Organization," and find that the slaveholders, in conjunction with their Northern allies, the doughfaced, are making a systematic effort to ascertain the whole modus operandi of the Underground, who are its conductors, where the stations are located, who supplies the money, &c. And for what reason, think you? To crush them all out by publishing their names. What then? So that no Southern man shall thereafter buy goods of them? As if the generous men who are constantly handing out money to protect and speed the fugitive depended for their business on the patronage of slaveholders. But the frantic rage of these traffickers in human muscles will fall short of the mark. There are hundreds of men in this city whose purses are, and ever will be, open to aid the flying fugitive beyond the reach of bondage. Eloquent incidents of shocking suffering and romantic heroism connected with the Underground, but curiosity must yield to prudence and humanity.

No less than seventy persons were on Sunday added to the membership of the Broad street Presbyterian Church, of which the Rev. John Chambers is pastor. This is one of the fruits of the revival, in which Mr. Chambers has taken a very conspicuous part. It was the largest number added to this church at one communion for many years. The church was crowded on the occasion, and the services were highly impressive. Numerous other evidences of the permanent good accomplished by the great awakening have been manifested in the recent celebrations of the National Anniversary. Entire military companies attended especially for them. The fire companies were also present in numerous parades. Indeed there has been no similar religious celebration of the Fourth at any previous time. Parties have gone to church who formerly went a-bowling or fishing, or indulged in some other form of rowdiness, and less drunkenness was noticed than for many years. Meantime the prayer meetings are continued daily in numerous churches, and the interest in them continues. The Business Men's Prayer Meeting has been reopened at Jayne's Hall, in Chestnut street, the very center of the city, and is the scene of daily manifestations of the Divine influence among merchants, clerks and working men. But no reform can be made to include a whole community like this. While one congregation is praying in church, another crowd is rioting in the street. Men are shot and stabbed to death, the grog shops are alive with customers, and the most atrocious criminals go at large unwhipped

THE WEATHER AND CROP PROSPECTS.

In the vicinity of New-York the weather of the first week in July has been favorable in a remarkable degree for farmers, and they have availed themselves of it to an almost unprecedented extent in securing hay, and have commenced pretty strong upon rye, which looks well. The grass is not very heavy, but the extreme heat of the last fortnight has added much to its sweetness, and it has been cut and cured in such good order generally that the hay will be unusually rich, and stock will winter well upon a less quantity than is usually allowed.

The corn, though small, has a very healthy appearance, and is growing with great rapidity. Potatoes need never look better, and the earliest of the crop are already coming into market.

Generally speaking, the farmers' prospects in the vicinity of New-York are more favorable than was generally expected, and they are feeling quite cheerful.

The wheat harvest in the wheat districts of this State and in Canada we hear that the great pest of the wheat grower, the midge, or red weevil, is sweeping the wheat districts. In the neighborhood of Hamilton, C. W. The Times of that place says the crop is totally destroyed.

A letter from Scottburgh, Livingston County, N. Y., in the great wheat region of the Genesee, says:

The weevil will nearly destroy the wheat harvest of this country, and an information that this danger has been done in other counties in the western part of this State. Many large fields will not pay for harvesting. The barley crop will be somewhat injured by this little enemy, which, though small, is greater than all other enemies to wheat. The prospect for other crops is generally good.

Another letter from a correspondent who has traveled much through the wheat-growing region of this State, says:

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The Baltimore Patriot thinks the Maryland crop a full average one, the harvest weather being very favorable.

The following letter does not give a very favorable opinion of the crop prospects in Illinois:

"Wenona, Central Illinois, July 2, 1858.—I have just been round a circuit of over a hundred miles, and more than one-half of the country is in a bad way. On one-half of the balance I can see no possible chance for the crop to mature, it being entirely too late. All the bottom lands of the rivers are inundated, so that the corn or wheat can be grown from the head of the Mississippi to the Gulf, and a great deal of the last year's crop has been lost also. These are facts that no man can controvert. I leave for others to figure what the result will be. CHAS. PARKER."

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THE DE RIVIERE SCANDAL.

A REQUISITION ISSUED FROM LOUISIANA.

ATTEMPTED ARREST AND ESCAPE OF DE RIVIERE—PROCEEDINGS ON THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

The case of Henri de Riviere and Mrs. and Miss Blount seems to be more complicated than ever as it proceeds. The bungling manner in which the proceedings have been conducted from the start has been apparent to everybody, and has favored the cause of the gallant. He is now probably without the reach of the law, at least for a time. The effort has been to get him within the jurisdiction of the State of New-York, that he may be held subject to an indictment for abduction. By our laws the lady must be under 18 years of age, De Riviere has not been guilty of an offense under the statutes of New-Jersey, and hence the anxiety to get him to New-York.

A few minutes before 12 o'clock on Thursday night, Constable Dunn of Jersey City came to the Napoleon Hotel and remained for some minutes in the bar-room, taking observations. He then absented himself temporarily, and returned with a posse of officers and the hotel, De Riviere being given into their custody, stating that he had a requisition for his arrest from the Governor of the State of Louisiana on the Governor of the State of New-Jersey. Mr. Hunkle said that he knew nothing of the effect of legal papers, and he declined to consult some person who did before he took any action. He called in Mr. J. M. Francis, one of the deputies of the Sheriff of Hudson County, who looked at the requisition and stated to Mr. Hunkle that it was in regular form. He suggested, however, that it was not advisable for a large body of men to go through the hotel to De Riviere's room, as it would disturb the hotel, but that a smaller number accompany Mr. Dunn, as there would be no difficulty in their effecting the arrest. Mr. Hunkle said he would accede to this proposition; but Mr. Dunn insisted upon taking the whole body with him. While the party were discussing this point, Gen. E. V. Wright, the counsel of Mrs. Blount, was sent for, and on his arrival Gen. Wright made a critical examination of the requisition, which he found to be dated June 8 instead of July 8, and which though a clerical error, was pronounced to be fatal to the validity of the instrument itself. While this proceeding was going on, Mr. de Riviere, being apprised of his danger, succeeded in making his escape—how or whence he was not transpired. It is rumored, however, that he was conveyed to this city in a small boat in time to take an early train or boat from the city. When it became known that De Riviere was not in his room, a search was instituted through the house by Dunn and his posse, and among others the room of Mrs. Blount was closely scrutinized. The search proving unsuccessful, the posse left the house.

The affair produced an excitement about the house, and when the mistake in the requisition was announced, voluntary offers were made by numerous persons to prevent its execution.

At 9 o'clock yesterday morning, the Bergen Hill stage arrived at the Court-House with Col. Blount and his counsel, Mr. Ransom of Jersey City. The two accompanied by Mr. Beatty, the Sheriff of Hudson County, entered the Court-room and took seats within the bar. Judge Ogden had not then arrived. Mr. Beatty informed Mr. Ransom that he had not been able to find the writ of habeas corpus upon him. Col. Blount said that this failure was a designed one to enable De Riviere to escape. Mr. Beatty said he had made diligent efforts to find De Riviere, and had succeeded in doing so. Col. Blount said that the character of the State of New-Jersey was involved in this matter, and he (Mr. Beatty) had intentionally allowed De Riviere to escape, and this he should prove on him. Mr. Beatty stated his official conduct was open to investigation and scrutiny at any time. Mr. Blount exhibited much excitement in his words and actions, and was evidently under the influence of strong nervous agitation. To other gentlemen present he said that in no State in the Union, except New Jersey, would there be any difficulty in bringing a man like De Riviere to justice, who had been guilty of so flagrant an outrage upon the domestic faith. He said that De Riviere was a mere adventurer, and had been sentenced to eight years in the galleys in France, and would scruple at not to secure a mercenary end. A gentleman had said to De Riviere that he was doing wrong in pursuing this matter, and De Riviere replied that Miss Blount had \$150,000, and he was not going to give that up without a struggle.

A gentleman suggested to Col. Blount that the daughter was quite as much